

# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## 24 SELECTED AS TEACHER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS

(FRANKFORT, Ky.) –The Kentucky Department of Education and Ashland Inc. have selected 24 outstanding Kentucky educators as recipients of the 2010 Ashland Inc. Teacher Achievement Awards (TAA). These teachers will compete for the 2010 Kentucky Teacher of the Year Award, which will be announced next month.

The 24 winning teachers, listed by school district, are:

**Berea Independent** – Sally F. Robinson, Berea Community High  
**Boone County** – Cherra L. Caldwell, Larry A. Ryle High  
**Boone County** – Durell Hamm, Larry A. Ryle High  
**Boone County** -- Lisa J. Lokesak, New Haven Elementary  
**Bourbon County** – Scott Cahill, Bourbon County Middle  
**Bullitt County** – Stephanie E. Carver, Mt. Washington Middle  
**Clark County** -- Jan V. Horn, Shearer Elementary  
**Corbin Independent** – Melissa R. Evans, Corbin Middle  
**Elizabethtown Independent** – Holly L. Walker, Elizabethtown High  
**Elliott County** – Anita B. Laney, Elliott County High  
**Graves County** – Phyllis J. Ray, Central Elementary  
**Jefferson County** – Ronda K. Fields, Ballard High  
**Jefferson County** – Valerie S. Rueger, Ramsey Middle  
**Jefferson County** – Kimberly Slusher, Dunn Elementary  
**Letcher County** – Stacy Isaac, Martha Jane Potter Elementary  
**Lincoln County** – James C. Carrier, McKinney Elementary  
**Mercer County** – Steve Goggin, Mercer County Senior High  
**McCracken County** – Jennifer Lacey, Heath Middle  
**Monticello Independent** – Jennifer Chaplin, Monticello High  
**Pendleton County** – Kerry S. Conrad, Phillip A. Sharp Middle  
**Rockcastle County** – Melissa C. Singleton, Rockcastle County Middle  
**Shelby County** – Artavia M. Acklin, Clear Creek Elementary  
**Simpson County** – Josh Tucker, Franklin-Simpson Middle  
**Warren County** – Jennifer H. Clark, Cumberland Trace Elementary

(more)

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All 24 teachers will be honored at a ceremony in Frankfort on October 23 in the State Capitol Building. Representatives of the Kentucky Department of Education, the Governor's Office and Ashland will be on hand to honor the teachers and to recognize the Kentucky Elementary, Middle and High School Teachers of the Year. From that group of three finalists, the Kentucky Teacher of the Year will be named and will represent the state in the National Teacher of the Year competition.

Ashland will present the 24 TAA recipients with cash awards and certificates at the awards ceremony in Frankfort. The three Kentucky Teachers of the Year also will receive cash awards and custom-designed glassware commemorating their accomplishments, and all 24 educators will be honored at a special luncheon that day.

The Kentucky Teacher Awards program combines the best elements of the Ashland Inc. Teacher Achievement Awards and the Kentucky Teacher of the Year programs. This marks the ninth year the Department of Education and Ashland have jointly honored Kentucky educators.

Judging was conducted in August by a blue-ribbon panel of veteran educators, many of whom have more than 30 years of teaching experience. Applications included information on the nominees' teaching philosophies, their teaching experiences and involvement in their respective communities, as well as letters of recommendation from peers, students, parents, administrators and others.

Ashland has recognized outstanding Kentucky teachers with its Teacher Achievement Awards since 1988. More than \$575,000 has been awarded to nearly 375 teachers of grades K to 12.

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